



MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

2. Roll Call

Trustees Present: Apland, Carr, Caulton, Hooker, Hunewill, Peterson, Souza

Trustees Absent: Hackler

Others Present: David Heft, General Manager; Deborah Battista, Administrative Asst./Clerk of the Board; David Hobbs, Legal Counsel.

3. Closed Session

The Board will report on any action taken during Closed Session and may take additional action in Open Session, as appropriate.

No Closed Session

4. Public Comment

Non-agenda item(s) for discussion only, no action to be taken. The public may address any agenda item at the time it is open for Board discussion.

Joe and Barbara Garcia (Garcia Dairy) provided comment to the Board concerning the public nuisance and mosquito breeding conditions on their property. Mr. & Mrs. Garcia provided Google satellite images showing that the land they are farming contain depressions which naturally hold water and that the condition of the property is better now than before they started farming the property in 2007. Mr. Garcia admitted that the conditions on the property were not ideal since planting corn but indicated they had plans to switch back to alfalfa and wheel-line irrigation in 2016. Both indicated that it was necessary to grow their own feed due to the high cost of hay and alternative food sources.

GM Heft gave a brief overview of the property for the Board explaining that excess water accumulates in the drainage ditch nearest the canal and floods 30+ acres during irrigation periods. According to staff, this was not nearly the case when the property was used to grow alfalfa due to lessened irrigation demands. This water cannot be pumped into the TID canal due to the high presence of dairy runoff. This water that originally was breeding mosquitoes in the drainage ditches is now flooding into the fields, growing an abundance of weeds and creating 30+ acres of prime mosquito breeding conditions and a public health nuisance. The cost of controlling this nuisance, with no cooperation from Garcia Dairy, is above and beyond what neighboring properties and similar dairy operations require. GM Heft also made clear that although the property did have low lying areas and cannot be leveled due to restrictions, these

areas should only contain water during the winter rainy season. This information was confirmed by the NRCS. Any water present after the winter rainy season is due solely to Garcia Dairy's farming practices.

The Board acknowledged Garcia Dairy's need to farm their own feed for their dairy cows but responded that they needed to do so without creating a public health nuisance for the surrounding community. The Garcia's would need to measure the economic feasibility of farming this property for corn with the costs of doing so in a fashion that does not create a public health nuisance. The Board stated that the decision to farm this property was the Garcia's and that the Garcia's had been warned on several occasions regarding the flooding and weeds in their fields and to date had done nothing to rectify the situation. If Garcia Dairy's decision were to farm the property, then it needed to do so without creating a public nuisance – and how this is accomplished is up to Mr. & Mrs. Garcia.

GM Heft stated that as has been explained before, the presence of standing water and overgrown weeds creates ideal breeding habitat for mosquitoes; not only by providing harborage but by hampering District control efforts. Either the standing water or the overgrown weeds must be removed. At this point, the weeds were so overgrown that simply treating with herbicide would not solve the problem and would need to be removed by hand, if necessary.

Mr. Garcia stated that he would look into hiring workers to remove the weeds via machete immediately, since the ground was too wet to support large equipment.

The Board instructed GM Heft to continue to operate under Resolution 2013-02 since "any recurrence of the public nuisance shall be considered a continuation of this original public nuisance and shall be subject to the control measure costs and civil penalties". The Board instructed GM Heft to place this item on the July agenda for Board comment and review.

5. Public Hearing

No Public Hearing

6. Action Items

- A. Consideration and approval of the Turlock MAD Board of Trustees meeting minutes for May 19, 2014.

Trustee Hunewill motion: Approve the Turlock MAD Board of Trustees meeting minutes for May 19, 2014. 2nd: Trustee Caulton. Unanimous

- B. Consideration of the Balance Sheet and Income Statement for April 2014.

GM Heft reviewed the Balance Sheet and Income Statement for April 2014 denoting revenues, budgetary expenses, fund balance amounts and chemical inventory.

- C. Consideration and approval of the payment of bills and wages for May 2014.

Trustee Souza motion: Ratify payment of bills and wages in the amount of \$113,734.06, as presented. 2nd: Trustee Apland. Unanimous

- D. Consideration and approval of Resolution 2014-2 Turlock Mosquito Abatement District Budget for FY 2014-2015 as presented by the Budget Committee.

GM Heft reviewed the projected FY 2014-2015 Budget document with the Board line-by-line, noting revenues, expenditures, and capital outlays. GM Heft notified the Board that he expected an increase in projected revenues from FY 2013-2014 due to much higher revenues received from the dissolution of Redevelopment Agencies; however, this amount cannot be confirmed until the District audit is completed.

Total operating expenditures for FY2014-2015 was projected at \$1,784,205 which represents only a 0.6% increase over the previous fiscal year.

The Board instructed GM Heft to establish a new committed fund balance account called the "Invasive Species Fund Balance Account" to be used only if an invasive species such as *Aedes aegypti* were found in the District. The Board amended the proposed draft budget by setting the initial balance of this account at \$50,000, with growth of this fund to be determined in future fiscal years.

Due to expectations of increased property tax revenue and excess revenue collected from RDA's in the 2013-2014 FY, the Board amended the proposed draft budget and kept the District's Special Tax rate at the same rate as the previous FY (Vacant: \$1.42; Residential: \$3.28; Income: \$7.05).

President Hooker motion: Approve Resolution 2014-2 Turlock Mosquito Abatement District Budget for FY 2014-15, with amendments as discussed. 2nd: Trustee Hunewill. President Hooker called for the roll call vote: All Ayes, except Trustees Hackler who was absent.

- E. Approval for the GM and Trustees to attend the MVCAC Summer Quarterly Meeting July 16-18, 2014 in Milpitas, CA.

Trustee Souza Motion: Approval for the GM and Trustees to attend the MVCAC Summer Quarterly Meeting July 16-18, 2014 in Milpitas, CA. 2nd: Trustee Carr. Unanimous

7. Information Items

No Information Items.

8. Reports

- A. Review of the General Manager's Report: May 2014.

GM Heft informed the Board that the District will be participating in the Stanislaus County Fair again this year July 11 – July 20, 2014. The Operators are finishing up with swimming

pool inspections and local cemeteries in our District have been warned about standing water in flower containers. Ceres and Turlock cemeteries were the worst offenders.

GM Heft also stated that WNV activity is being detected very early this year, all of the AGO traps are out, and the District is participating in resistant testing. Early testing has indicated that all pools submitted for the presence of the *kdr* gene in *Culex pipiens* have been 100% positive for the gene. Follow up sampling will result in individual mosquitoes from these locations being tested for the presence of the gene to help to establish the percentage of the population containing the gene and whether the population is homozygous/heterozygous.

Trustee Hunewill informed the Board that GM Heft had spoken at his Rotary Club, was very professional and did an excellent job.

9. Adjournment

Trustee Caulton motion: Adjournment of the Turlock Mosquito Abatement District Board of Trustees Meeting, date June 16, 2014. 2nd: Trustee Carr. Unanimous

There being no further business, President Hooker adjourned the meeting at 9:30 pm.

Rodman Hooker, President

George Carr, Secretary